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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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22 April 1965

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*United Nations - Vietnam: [Secretary General Thant is apparently still trying to find some way to play an important role in working out a settlement of the Vietnam conflict.]

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[] the Secretary General considers the United Nations to be the most appropriate vehicle for solving the Vietnam problem, with himself--an Asian--as the chief mediator. Although he doubts the Soviet Union would accept the involvement of the UN itself, Thant is described as being prepared to stake his own position on an effort to secure a settlement. He claims that so far he has been under no pressure from either Moscow or Paris in connection with Vietnam.]

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[Thant says he is ready to go to North Vietnam for discussions if Hanoi indicated that he would be welcomed. He says he is prepared to do so without obtaining Moscow's prior approval, and would not be deterred by Chinese Communist opposition.]

[Thant also has ideas of maintaining contact with the Viet Cong. He presently considers Algerian Premier Ben Bella to be the best channel, although this would require passing through the Chinese Communists.]

[Thant intends to send Chakravarthi V. Narashimhan, his chief administrative assistant, to Phnom Penh early next month for the purpose of sounding out Prince Sihanouk about contacting the Viet Cong and opening up a direct channel between Thant and the Communists.]

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USSR-France: Moscow apparently views Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko's trip to Paris next week as opening the way for a series of talks with the French on important European questions.

Newly arrived Soviet Ambassador Zorin was almost ingratiating to the French in presenting his credentials, and spoke of the "particular responsibility" which France and the USSR share for European security.

During the past week Soviet press attacks on alleged Allied complicity in the recent Bundestag meeting in West Berlin have carefully avoided specific mention of France.

[On 2 April Gromyko proposed that] the Paris talks focus on European security, the German problem, and disarmament. In its attempt to erode further the four-power responsibility for German reunification, the USSR in recent months has shown a greater interest in taking advantage of De Gaulle's proposals for placing a German settlement in the broader framework of European security.

[On 10 April Gromyko informed the French that] The question of Southeast Asia ^{will probably} ~~should~~ also be placed on the agenda. ^{the USSR published} [His move followed Soviet publication] On 8 April of a draft co-chairmen's appeal for convening an international conference on Cambodia. Moscow may hope to work out a joint Soviet-French statement on this question.

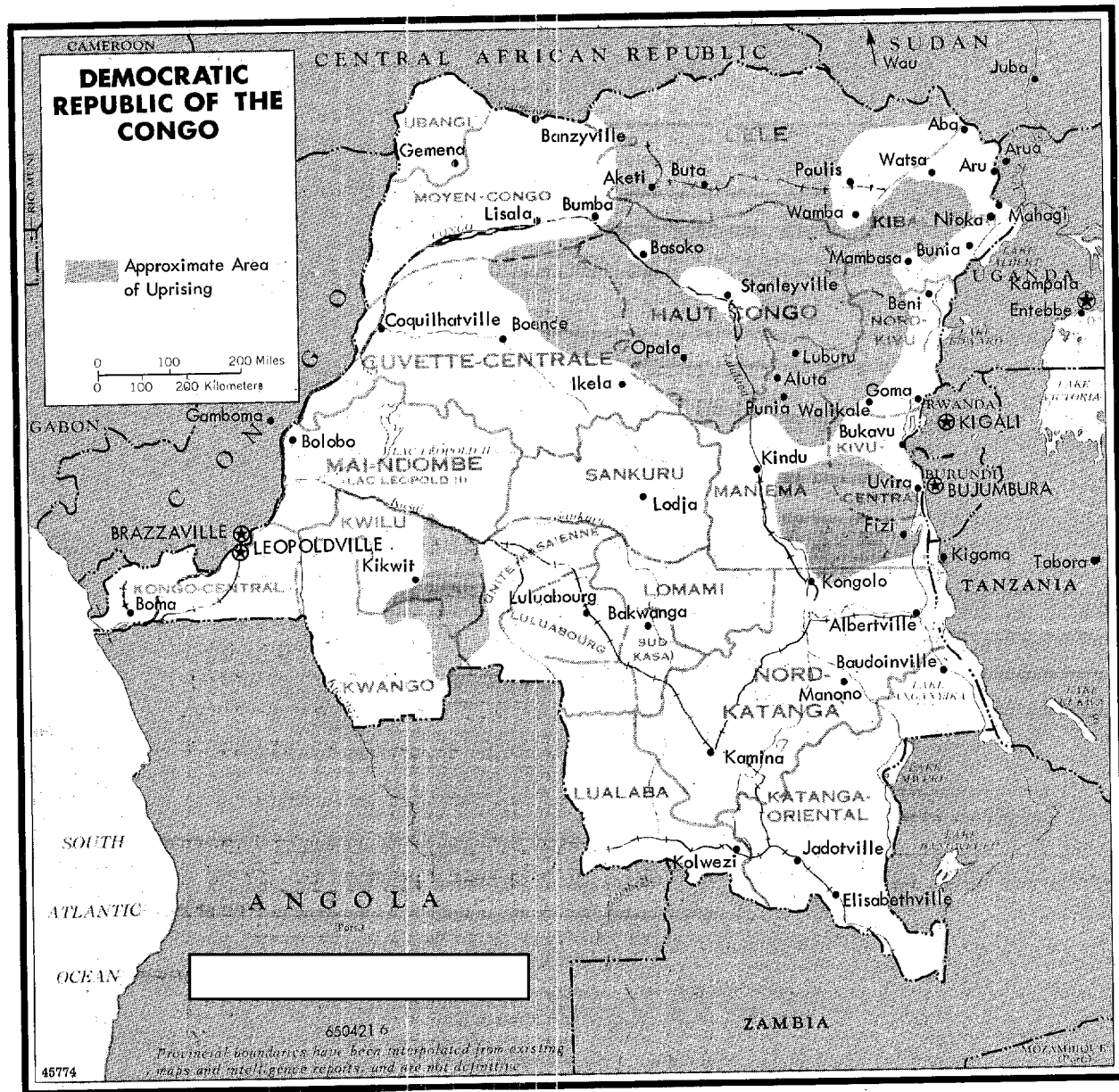
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22 Apr 65 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN Map

Congo: The rebellion continues to deteriorate.

In the northeast the mercenaries evidently have accomplished their most important task, sealing the Sudanese and Ugandan frontiers. Mercenary patrols are meeting some opposition, but not enough to impede seriously their operations. With outside supply no longer available, it seems unlikely that the rebels at present can organize an effective counteroffensive or cause more than local disturbances.

Despite frequent alarms, the Fizi area on Lake Tanganyika is fairly quiet. Uvira, on the Burundi border, has not been attacked in over a week. The last reported action north of Albertville occurred on 14 April.

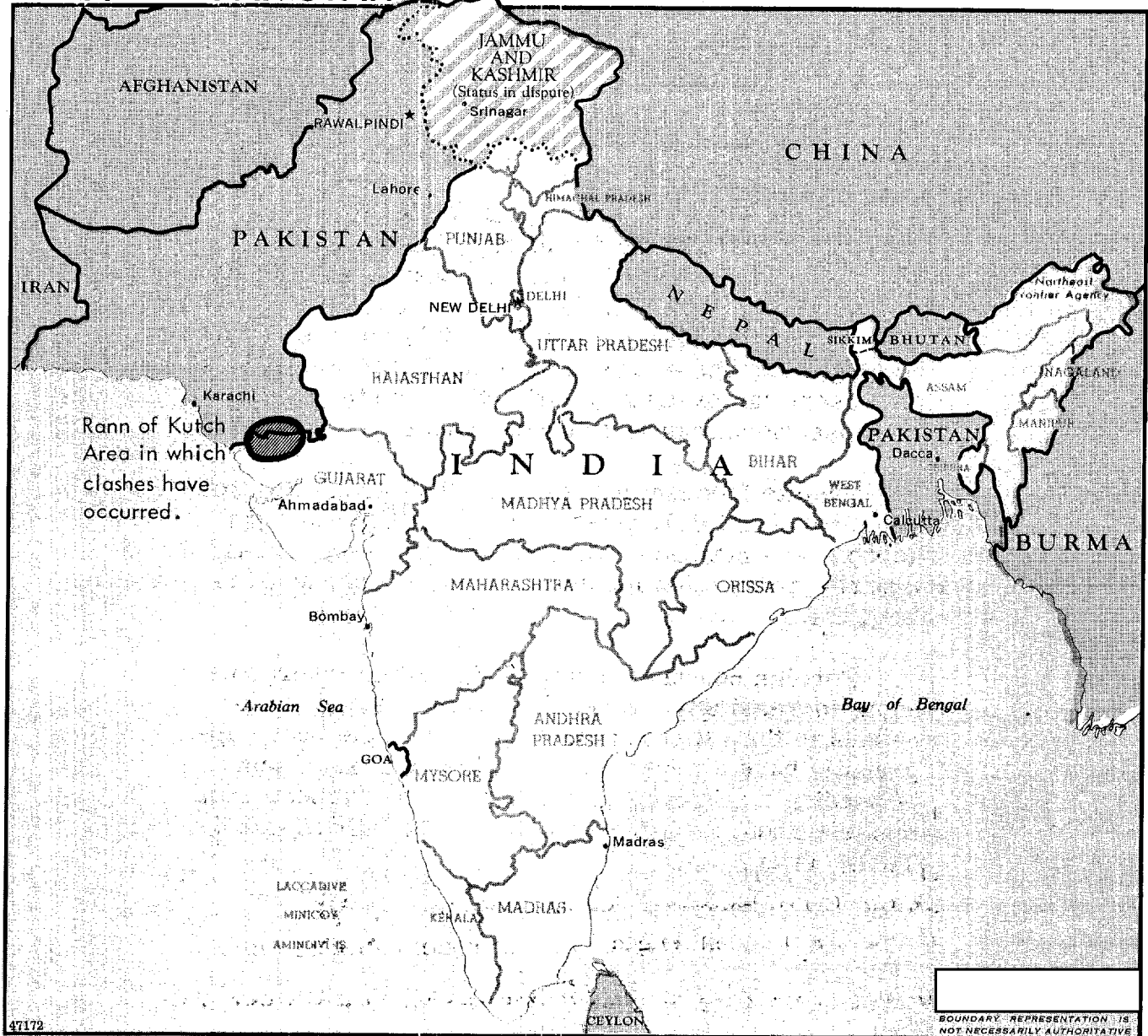
Foreign countries sympathetic to the insurgents seem increasingly aware of the schisms and weaknesses in the rebel ranks. Uganda and the Sudan apparently have stopped assisting the rebels. Ghana is sending a mission to consult with the Chinese Communists about the rebellion, however.

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INDIA AND PAKISTAN



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22 Apr 65 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN Map

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Berlin: [Soviet forces in Germany are apparently preparing to stage a large parade with their German allies in East Berlin in connection with VE-Day celebrations next month. Equipment concentrated at Schoenwalde Airport since mid-April includes 18 Scud surface-to-surface missiles, 20 FROG rockets, and 21 SA-2 (surface-to-air) missile transporters. This would be the first time that the Soviet Army has displayed its tactical missiles outside the USSR.]

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Iraq: [Evidence is accumulating that pro-Egyptians within the Iraqi regime may soon be forced out of office. Premier Tahir Yahya, a leader of the anti-Nasirist faction, apparently feels his position has strengthened recently]

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[The Nasirists suffered a major political defeat early this month when the government decided to resume the war against the Kurds in northern Iraq, and several have reportedly already tendered their resignations.]

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India-Pakistan: Intermittent firing continues in the Kutch border area where Indian and Pakistani forces have twice clashed in the past two weeks. Both governments are mainly engaged in a war of words and nerves involving both the clarification of terms under which a cease-fire will come into effect and correspondence with the UN to keep the record straight. [At the same time each side is strengthening its reserve forces in the area. Pakistan is reported to be deploying armored elements from Lahore.]

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*Sudan: Violence broke out yesterday as parliamentary elections began in five of Sudan's six northern provinces. [Thus far, at least 40 people are reported to have been killed and another 200 injured.] The leftist People's Democratic Party, the only major group still opposing elections at this time, has called demonstrations and provoked clashes with guards at polling stations in several cities. Police and military units will probably be able to maintain order, but continued demonstrations could prompt leftists in the cabinet to push for a further delay of elections in the Khartoum area, already postponed until 28 April.

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